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2010 NOV 31 AM 11: 53 LETTER TO COMMISSION CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

TO:

Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM:

Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE:

December 1, 2010

SUBJECT: Police Department's "Holiday Enhancement/Crime Reduction"

This Letter to the City Commission (LTC) is to provide information on the Police Department's end of year proactive initiative "Holiday Enhancement / Crime Reduction". This initiative will commence on November 26, 2010 and will conclude on December 24, 2010.

The months of November and December are traditionally busy months for City of Miami Beach as tourists from around the world transcend to our City. The intent of "Holiday Enhancement / Crime Reduction" initiative is to provide an enhanced level of police visibility and public safety throughout the city. This initiative is designed to target criminals who may take the holiday shopping season as an opportunity to commit crimes on Miami Beach.

As part of this initiative, a high visibility uniformed police officer component has been added and is directed citywide in all the business districts. In addition, this initiative will have officers focused primarily on residential areas. This uniformed component will consist of foot patrols, bicycle patrols, and both vehicle and motorcycle patrols. Our goal is for the citizens, visitors, and shoppers to see uniformed police officers in as many areas as possible, and for these officers to be ready to respond to any need for assistance.

Aside from the increase in uniformed officers throughout the city, an undercover proactive component will be implemented to address crimes of opportunity. These undercover officers will be directed based on daily crime analysis and information. As information is received and trends are identified, undercover officers will saturate targeted areas to apprehend criminals prior to crimes taking place. The undercover component will have the flexibility to address potential crime areas citywide.

The combination of high visibility uniform presence and undercover capabilities are being implemented as a holistic plan to aggressively curtail criminal activity during one of our City's busiest periods and improve our visibility. This initiative will involve on-duty personnel from all divisions from within the department with only limited overtime staffing working together in a collaborative effort to deter crime.

As we initiate our "Holiday Enhancement/Crime Reduction" plan, the Police Department will continue to make every effort to proactively and innovatively combat crime, to improve public safety, and the quality of life for the citizens of Miami Beach.

JMG:CN:tr

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